



Released: June 19, 2008

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Dear Respondent:

This issue of the Idaho Crop and Livestock Producers' News covers the results of the June Sweet Cherry Survey. Sweet cherry production is reported for Idaho, selected states, and the U.S.

This release is sent to survey participants in appreciation for their time spent responding to the survey. For more information contact us at nass-id@nass.usda.gov or at 1-800-691-9987. Thank you for reporting and your continued support.

Sincerely,

William R. Meyer
Director

Idaho Sweet Cherry Production Expected at 2,100 Tons

Idaho is expecting a sweet cherry crop of 2,100 tons, up 40 percent from last year but 45 percent lower than 2006. Despite a mid-April frost, the sweet cherry crop is expected to be higher than last year.

U.S. sweet cherry production is forecast at 249,580 tons, down 23 percent from 2007 and 15 percent below 2006. The Washington crop forecast of 100,000 tons is unchanged from the June forecast. The forecast is 41 percent below the 2007 production and 40 percent below the production in 2006. Cool temperatures during bloom inhibited bee activity and pollination, then a mid-April frost severely damaged a large portion of the sweet cherry crop.

Production in California is forecast at 86,000 tons, 1 percent higher than the 2007 production and 104 percent above 2006. The California forecast is carried forward from June. Cool temperatures and light rain were beneficial to fruit growth. Oregon production is forecast at 35,000 tons, unchanged from the previous forecast and 2007 production but 36 percent below the production in 2006. Projected production levels varied considerably among growers in different regions. The Michigan crop is forecast at 25,000 tons, 8 percent below the 2007 production but 25 percent higher than the 2006 crop. Multiple spring frosts damaged some cherry orchards, resulting in reduced yields. New York production is forecast at 1,030 tons, 13 percent below the 2007 crop but 7 percent higher than 2006. A cold start to the season and dry conditions in some areas reduced yields. Utah production is expected to total 450 tons, down 64 percent from 2007 and down 75 percent from 2006. Frosts and cold summer temperatures decimated flower buds.

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**Sweet Cherries: Total Production by State and United States,
2006 – 2007 and Forecasted 2008**

State	2006	2007	2008
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>
California 1/	42,100	85,000	86,000
Idaho	3,800	1,500	2,100
Michigan	20,000	27,300	25,000
Montana 2/	2,400	2,430	
New York	960	1,190	1,030
Oregon	55,100	35,000	35,000
Utah	1,800	1,250	450
Washington	168,000	170,000	100,000
United States	294,160	323,670	249,580

1/ Forecast carried forward from "Crop Production" released June 10, 2008. 2/The first estimate for 2008 sweet cherries in MT will be published in the January 2009 *Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts 2008 Preliminary Summary*.

A THANK YOU TO ALL IDAHO FARM AND RANCH OPERATORS

Your cooperation in completing agricultural surveys from this office is greatly **APPRECIATED**. Accurate, useful estimates are vital in decision making. All estimates derived from these surveys, along with other pertinent agricultural data, are published in our regular series of releases. All NASS reports are available free of charge on the worldwide Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and go to the NASS Home Page at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>. If you have any questions or require additional information, you may reach us toll free at 1-800-691-9987.